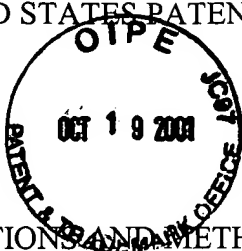


Attorney's Docket No. 5718-16A

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Rao, et al.
Appl. No.: 09/478,598
Filed: 1/6/00
For: COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR ALTERING AMINO ACID CONTENT OF PROTEINS



Confirmation No.: 1892
Group Art Unit: 1652
Examiner: P. Tung

October 16, 2001

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed July 16, 2001, Applicants respectfully request reexamination and reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

In The Claims:

Please amend claims 58, 59, 66, 67, 73-75, 81, 82, 98, 99, 106, 107, and 115 as follows:

58. (Amended) A method for altering amino acid composition of a native protein of interest whose conformation is unavailable, said method comprising introducing amino acid changes into said protein to create an engineered protein, said engineered protein having the conformation of the native protein wherein said conformation of the engineered protein is confirmed by binding said engineered protein with a set of antibodies capable of binding with the native protein, wherein said antibodies recognize native conformation, and wherein said amino acid changes are made to increase levels of nutritionally essential amino acids in the engineered protein.

59. (Amended) The method of Claim 58, wherein said nutritionally essential amino acids are selected from the group consisting of methionine, tryptophan, lysine, valine, phenylalanine, isoleucine, leucine, threonine and cysteine.

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